

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

TWO NEW AFRICAN BIRDS.

BY JOHN C. PHILLIPS.

The two birds to be described were taken by Dr. G. M. Allen and the writer on a short collecting trip during the past winter up the Nile to Khartoum, and then up the Blue Nile and Dinder rivers in Sennar. Most of the time was spent in the latter province, a region known ornithologically for a long time through the work of Heuglin and Rüppell.

***Caprimulgus eleanorae* sp. nov.**

*Type*, adult ♀ M. C. Z. No. 63,436, taken at Fazogli, Blue Nile, Sudan, 15 January, 1913.

*Description*.—Most nearly like *C. monticolus* of India, of which it appears to be the African representative. In general color very much like the gray examples of *C. monticolus*, but at once distinguished by the spots on the three outer primaries, being small and round and confined wholly to the inner web, instead of being large and extending across both webs of 2d, 3d, and 4th primaries. In the new species the spot on the first primary is only 7 mm. in diameter, while on the third primary it is about 12 mm. Wing, 185 mm.; culmen to base of forehead, 28 mm.; exposed culmen, 11 mm.; tarsus, 20 mm. The characters of the male are unknown.

*Remarks*.—This species differs from all African species of somewhat similar general coloration by its much larger size, equal in fact to *C. monticola*.

***Passer domesticus chephreni* subsp. nov.**

*Type*, adult ♂ M. C. Z. No. 63,594, from Gizeh, near Cairo, Egypt, December 12, 1912.

*Description*.—Like *P. d. indicus* but cheeks and ear coverts much darker (smoke grey, Ridgway, 1912) instead of whitish. Size similar to

*indicus*. Adult female very similar to *indicus* but cheeks darker and greyer.

*Remarks*.—Hartert (Vögel der Palaarktischen Fauna, Vol. I, p. 151), left this lower Nile race without a name, his material being insufficient, but in a footnote in the list of species to the first volume he refers the Egyptian bird to *niloticus* of Nicoll & Bonhote (Bull. B. O. club. XXII, P. 161).

*P. d. niloticus* is apparently a local desert race closely resembling *P. d. arboreus* from Khartoum, and not the typical sparrow of lower Egypt, which Nicoll & Bonhote still refer to *P. d. indicus*.